

## Message Text

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61  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-01 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/095 W  
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P 252235Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6264  
INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY  
AMCONSUL TORONTO  
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 1537

E.O.QQYTW: GDS  
TAGS:ENRG, CA  
SUBJECT: CANADIAN NATURAL GAS EXPORT PRICE INCREASE

REF: OTTAWA 1516

1. TORONTO STAR OF APRIL 25 PROMINENTLY FRONT PAGES  
NEW REPORT TITLED "OTTAWA REJECTS U.S. PROTESTS  
OVER GAS PRICE" AND REPORTS THAT ENERGY MINISTER  
MACDONALD HOPES TO HAVE DECISION BY WEDNESDAY  
(APRIL 30); THAT ONE OFFICIAL TOLD THE STAR THAT  
"WE CAN'T HEAR THEIR (U.S.) CASE ON TUESDAY AND  
ANNOUNCE AN INCREASE TWO DAYS LATER ...IT WOULD  
LOOK LIKE WE NEVER LISTENED TO THEM"; AND THAT  
MACDONALD HINTED A SPLIT IN THE CABINET BY SAYING  
"NOT ALL OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE THE SAME PERSPECTIVE."

2. IN RESPONSE TO ECON COUNSELOR'S REQUEST FOR  
COMMENT ON ARTICLE, EMR ADM HOPPER SAID CATEGORICALLY  
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THAT STATEMENTS IN ARTICLE ATTRIBUTED TO OFFICIAL

SOURCES ARE EITHER FABRICATION OR ONE MAN'S OPINION  
BUT ARE NOT REPEAT NOT VIEWS OF GOVERNMENT.  
SPECIFICALLY, HE SAID, THEY DO NOT REPRESENT VIEWS  
OF EMR MINISTER MACDONALD, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OR SEVERAL  
OTHER MINISTRIES HOPPER SAID CABINET HAS SPENT  
A LOT OF TIME ON GAS PRICE ISSUE. U.S. POSITION  
ESPECIALLY RE IMPACT OF SUDDEN INCREASE ON CONSUMERS  
AND QUESTION OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EXPORT AND DOMESTIC  
PRICES HAS RECEIVED MUCH ATTENTION. THERE ARE  
SUBSTANTIALY DIFFERING VIEWS WITHIN GOVERNMENT ON  
HOW TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM. ISSUE HAS NOT REPEAT NOT  
YET BEEN RESOLVED AND NO ONE KNOWS WHEN IT WILL BE.  
HE PERSONALLY DOUBTED THAT A DECISION WOULD BE MADE  
BY NEXT WEDNESDAY.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY MISS MCDUGALL (EXTAFF, DIRECTOR  
GENERAL, ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS) CONFIRMED  
HOPPER'S STATEMENTS. NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE, SHE  
SAID. U.S. REPRESENTATIONS "HAVE MADE AN IMPRESSION"  
AND ARE BEING CONSIDERED SERIOUSLY. IT IS NOT REPEAT  
NOT A QUESTION OF "OPTICS" AS SOME OF TODAY'S PRESS  
ARTICLES SUGGEST. MISS MCDUGALL SAID SHE WISHED  
SHE WERE IN POSITION TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING REGARDING  
RESULTS OF GOC DELIBERATIONS BUT AT THIS STAGE NO ONE  
KNOWS WHAT WILL BE DECIDED OR WHEN.  
JOHNSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NATURAL GAS, EXPORT PRICES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PRESS RELEASES  
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**Draft Date:** 25 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750146-0712  
**From:** OTTAWA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750416/aaaaapea.tel  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CANADIAN NATURAL GAS EXPORT PRICE INCREASE  
**TAGS:** ENRG, CA, (MCDONALD, DONALD M)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006